

RIVERTON BOARD OF EDUCATION  
MINUTES OF OCTOBER 26, 2021  
REGULAR MEETING

The regular meeting of the Riverton Board of Education was called to order by Mr. Croft at 7:00 p.m. in the Gym at the school.

Mr. Croft led the salute to the flag, and read the following statement:

“On January 6, 2021 notice of this meeting was mailed to Burlington County Times, and the Courier Post. Notice of this meeting was posted on the front door of the school, the Post Office, the WSFS Bank, and filed with the Municipal Clerk. I direct the Secretary to enter this public announcement into the minutes.”

Mr. Croft congratulated Ms. Quinzi on her approval as the new board member and asked her to proceed with the Oath of Office. Upon completion of the oath, the Board congratulated Ms. Quinzi.

Mr. Croft took a roll call and the following were present:

Mrs. Corbi	Mr. Sencindiver
Mr. Elliot (N.A.)	Mr. Croft, President
Mrs. Falicki	Mrs. McGinnis, Vice President
Mrs. Matzelle	Mrs. Eck, Superintendent
Mr. Papenberg	Mr. Vrettos, School Board Secretary
Mrs. Quinzi	

**PUBLIC SESSION:**

Motion made by Mrs. Corbi, and seconded by Mr. Papenberg to accept the Secretary’s Minutes (Public and Executive) for the regular meeting on September 28, 2021.

Motion carried, all members voting aye.

**CORRESPONDENCE:** None

**ADMINISTRATION REPORT:**

Mrs. Eck spoke about the following items:

- Week of Respect Activities: Theme Dress-Up Days, Therapy Dog, Collections for Donation Goods, Classroom Activities, School Wide Announcements
- Violence Awareness and Prevention Activities
- Red Ribbon Week Activities
- Full Closure Plan – On Website
- COVID Testing Plan
- QSAC Preparation including Facility Review

Mr. Croft asked how is student behavior. Mrs. Eck responded that they are reacting a little quicker to being in the classroom, there’s been some occasions of aggression and social skills are still a work in progress. There has to be an understanding that families may be in different situations, and it’s been a difficult year.

**RECOGNITION OF CITIZENS FOR DISCUSSION OF AGENDA ITEMS:** None**PTO:** None**COMMITTEE REPORTS:**

- a. **Personnel** – No report.
- b. **Curriculum** – No report.
- c. **Building & Grounds** – Mr. Vrettos updated the Board on the progress of the chiller project. Installation is complete and tested. The remaining item is insulation.
- d. **Finance** – Mr. Papenberg reviewed the bills and found all to be in order.
- e. **Policy** – No report.
- f. **Community Relations** – No report.
- g. **Legislation** – No report.
- h. **Palmyra Board Representative** – Mrs. Falicki attended the board meeting on October 13<sup>th</sup>. The assistant principal presented on early college pathways, affiliated with RCBC, Stockton, and trade pathways. Mrs. Eck commented that the substitute criteria has been lowered to: they must have 30 credits and be 20 years old.

**OLD BUSINESS:** None**NEW BUSINESS:**

Based on the recommendation of the Superintendent, Mrs. Corbi made the following motion:

-to approve submission of the Riverton School District Public Health Related Closure Plan and Checklist.

Seconded by Mr. Papenberg, motion carried, all members voting aye.

Mr. Sencindiver made the following motions:

-to approve the updated COVID Testing Plan for the 2021-22 School Year.

Seconded by Mrs. McGinnis, motion carried, all members voting aye.

-to approve submission of the Comprehensive Maintenance Plan and the Annual Maintenance Worksheet (M-1) for the 2021-22 school year.

Seconded by Mrs. McGinnis, motion carried, all members voting aye.

-to approve the Annual Facility Checklist as completed by the Supervisor of Buildings and Grounds evaluating the health & safety of the school building.

Seconded by Mr. Papenberg. Mr. Sencindiver asked who completed the report and Mrs. Eck responded Mr. Palladino. Motion carried, all members voting aye.

-to approve submission of the NJQSAC District Performance Reviews (operations, governance, fiscal management, personnel and instruction/program) and related documentation as required by the QSAC (Quality Single Accountability Continuum) process.

Seconded by Mr. Papenberg, motion carried, all members voting aye.

-to affirm completion of HIB Investigation Case #1.

Seconded by Mrs. Corbi, motion carried, all members voting aye.

-to approve the following individuals to be on the Special Education Parent Advisory Committee as listed a-f (Meeting dates TBD):

- a. Dr. Lorna Sullivan
- b. Miss Elizabeth Odd
- c. Mrs. Amy Pfeiffer
- d. Mrs. Lora Palazzolo
- e. Ms. Adrienne Kupper
- f. Mrs. Jennifer Alvarado

Seconded by Mrs. McGinnis. Mr. Sencindiver asked if the list was composed of all teachers. Mrs. Eck responded it includes the school psychologist, social worker, a teacher, the speech teacher, and two parents. Motion carried, all members voting aye.

-to approve the Assignment Plan for Certified and Noncertified Nurses as per New Jersey Code and to approve the annual review and re-adoption of Regulation# 5141 "Health; Nursing Plan" as presented by the Superintendent.

Seconded by Mrs. McGinnis, motion carried, all members voting aye.

-to approve the Fire & Security Drill Report for October, 2021, as submitted by the Superintendent.

Seconded by Mr. Papenberg. Mr. Croft asked if the report included today's incident. Mrs. Eck responded no, only planned drills. Motion carried, all members voting aye.

-to approve for second reading & adoption the following curriculum fully aligned to the 2020 New Jersey Student Learning Standards as listed a-g:

- a. Visual and Performing Arts: Music including Dance, Theatre, and Music Theory & Composition (Middle School);
- b. Comprehensive Health and Physical Education including Physical Wellness, Safety and Mental
- c. Science;
- d. Social Studies;
- e. World Languages; Spanish, to be completed 2022;
- f. Computer Science and Design Thinking, template finished – work will continue;
- g. Career Readiness, Life Literacies and Key Skills, Completed Document.

Seconded by Mrs. McGinnis. Mr. Sencindiver asked who teaches physical education and Mrs. Eck responded with Mr. Zaun. Motion carried, all members voting aye.

-to approve teachers to provide extra academic support to identified students after school as part of our Title I After-School ELA and Math Program at the contractual rate as assigned by the Superintendent and listed a-m:

- |    |                           |    |                      |
|----|---------------------------|----|----------------------|
| a. | Miss Shannon Cahill       | h. | Mrs. Samantha Miller |
| b. | Mrs. Alyson Flanagan      | i. | Mrs. Kristin Park    |
| c. | Mrs. Rebecca Karr-Parente | j. | Mrs. Amy Penwell     |
| d. | Miss Nancy Knoll          | k. | Mrs. Lena Sutcliffe  |
| e. | Mrs. Dawn Locantore       | l. | Ms. Heather Thress   |
| f. | Mrs. Christine Lubitsky   | m. | Mrs. Shannon Vasile  |
| g. | Mrs. Danielle Milburn     |    |                      |

Seconded by Mrs. Corbi, motion carried, all members voting aye.

-to approve the staff members listed on file in the Main Office for the 2021-22 school year as listed a-b:

- a. to transport students in their personal vehicle
- b. to use their personal vehicle for school related activities

Seconded by Mr. Papenberg, motion carried, all members voting aye.

-to approve individuals listed on file in the Main Office as volunteers/chaperones for the 2021-22 school year.

Seconded by Mr. Papenberg, motion carried, all members voting aye.

-to confirm the workshop/professional day request as listed a:

- a. Mrs. Lora Palazzolo to attend a workshop online “SLP Live: Feel Empowered Treating Speech” on October 6, 2021 at 5:00 P.M. at a cost to the Board of \$50.00 (using grant funds.)

Seconded by Mrs. McGinnis, motion carried, all members voting aye.

-to approve Mrs. Erin Foley as an Interim Speech and Language Therapist beginning February 22, 2022 until the end of the school year at the rate of \$257.00/day.

Seconded by Mrs. Corbi, motion carried, all members voting aye.

-to approve Mrs. Karen Park and Ms. RT Berry as substitute teachers for the 2021-22 School Year.

Seconded by Mrs. McGinnis, motion carried, all members voting aye.

-to approve Mrs. Donna Johnson as an Interim Teacher beginning January 3, 2022 until the end of the school year at the rate of pay of \$257.00/day.

Seconded by Mrs. Corbi. Mrs. Eck explained this was to cover for special education resource family leave, but language arts coverage remains undecided. When Mrs. Corbi asked which grades are being affected Mrs. Eck responded with the lower grades. Motion carried, all members voting aye.

-to approve the following class trip as listed a:

- a. SEEK students Grades 5-8 to attend Buehler Challenger Science Center to participate in a simulation “Mission to Mars” (2 visits.)

Seconded by Mrs. McGinnis, motion carried, all members voting aye.

-to confirm the Bike Rodeo Event on October 16, 2021 from 10:00 A.M. until 12:00 P.M. on the blacktop. Sponsored by Riverton School, Riverton PTO, and the Riverton Police Department.

Seconded by Mrs. McGinnis, motion carried, all members voting aye.

-to approve the Fall Fun Festival for grades 6-8 on November 12, 2021 from 5:00 to 7:00 P.M. and the Halloween Party (Gr. K-3) as an 8<sup>th</sup> grade fundraiser on October 29, 2021 from 3:00 to 4:30 P.M.

Seconded by Mrs. Corbi, motion carried, all members voting aye.

-to approve the annual review of the Uniform State Memorandum of Agreement with all addendums between Education and Law Enforcement Officials (MOA) and the Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) regarding live video streaming for the 2021-22 school year.

Seconded by Mrs. Corbi, motion carried, all members voting aye.

-to approve Dr. Hewitt to conduct psychiatric evaluations as part of the Child Study Team Evaluations as assigned by the Child Study Team at a cost of \$650.00 per evaluation.

Seconded by Mrs. McGinnis. Mr. Croft asked if the district used Dr. Hewitt in the past and Mrs. Eck answered yes. Motion carried, all members voting aye.

-to approve the Instructional Online Services and Apps for the 2021-22 School Year.

Seconded by Mrs. McGinnis, motion carried, all members voting aye.

-to approve the Amendment 1 for the CRRSA Consolidated Application (Covid Funds) specifically ESSER II as described below:

- Moving \$6865. from 400-732 (non-instructional equipment) to 100-600 for Chromebooks.
- Changing 400-732 (\$64,215.) to help with the cost of Chiller and not window replacement as originally planned.

Seconded by Mrs. Corbi. Mr. Sencindiver asked for more detail on the amendment. Mr. Vrettos explained there was a budget change that involved multiple grants, thus lowering the original amount intended to use for chiller. The balance was pulled from the grant originally planned to use for windows. Mrs. Eck commented that the both ESSER II and III grants need to budget for Learning Acceleration and Mental Health. Motion carried, all members voting aye.

-to approve submission of the ARP ESSER application with 4 subgrants due November 24, 2021:

- ARP ESSER \$215,956. total. Chiller \$172,764. 20% set aside for Learning Acceleration \$43,191.
- \$12,000. for after school tutoring
- \$20,000. for Christine Lubistky, BSI Teacher to be full time (FT salary: \$78,805.)
- \$9,000. for Chris Lubitsky's benefits
- \$2,192. Supplies for reading fluency (100 Book Challenge - American Book Company)

4 subgrants part of ARP ESSER:

- NJTSS Mental Health Support Staffing \$45,000. (\$22,500. for Liz Odd, Social Worker, for 22-23 and 23-24)
- Accelerated Learning Coach and Educator Support \$50,000. (\$25,000. for 22-23 and 23-24 for Christine Lubitsky, BSI Teacher)
- Evidence Based Summer Learning and Enrichment \$40,000. (1:1 Tutoring and Summer programming with LLI for Summer, 22 and Summer, 23)
- Evidenced Based Comprehensive Beyond the School Day \$40,000. (after-school tutoring for the 22-23 and 23-24 school year)

Seconded by Mrs. McGinnis. Mr. Sencindiver questioned if Accelerated Learning was already budgeted. Mrs. Eck broke down ESSER II & III grants, both including Accelerated Learning, opportunity to use the funds through 23-24, intended for basic skills, tutoring, social work. Mr. Sencindiver asked how the children are responding in this environment. Mrs. Eck commented that the gaps are slowly being filled but there are struggles. The overall Start Strong scores were “ok.” Mr. Sencindiver asked if there is a large gap between the highs and lows. Mrs. Eck commented that those that were fully virtual last year are more behind, but some are catching up quickly. The ultimate goal is to have them high school ready.

Mrs. Corbi made the following motion:

-to approve the following 2021-22 tuition contract as listed a-d:

Sending:

- a. Moorestown School District: 1 special education student with 1-1 aide @ \$93,952.24;
- b. Burlington County Special Services School District: 3 special education students @ \$44,887.00 ea

Receiving:

- c. Ocean City School District: 1 special education student @14,540.00,
- d. Ocean City School District: 1 special education student @12,876.00.

Seconded by Mr. Sencindiver, motion carried, all members voting aye.

Mr. Sencindiver made the following motions:

-to approve the School Alliance Insurance Fund Safety Incentive Program Award Credit (SAIF) in the amount of \$3,500.

Seconded by Mrs. McGinnis, motion carried, all members voting aye.

-to approve the annual assessment of \$4,400. for the 2021-22 school year for Environmental and Pollution Coverage through The Beazley Group.

Seconded by Mrs. McGinnis, motion carried, all members voting aye.

-to approve the Special Payrolls for hourly, per diem, and substitute employees for September 2021.

Seconded by Mr. Papenberg, motion carried, all members voting aye.

-to approve the Board Secretary’s and Treasurer’s Reports for September 2021 in balance.

Seconded by Mr. Papenberg, motion carried, all members voting aye.

-to approve the following resolution .....

Pursuant to NJAC 6A:23A-16.10(c) 4, we certify that as of September 30, 2021 after review of the secretary’s monthly financial report, and upon consultation with the appropriate district officials, to the best of our knowledge, no major account or fund has been overextended in violation of NJAC 6A:23A-16.10(b), and that sufficient funds are available to meet the district’s financial obligations for the remainder of the fiscal year.

Seconded by Mr. Papenberg. Mr. Vrettos commented that the financials were previously shown and explained to Ms. Quinzi in order to have her ready for the vote. A roll call was taken with all members voting aye. Motion carried.

-to approve the payment of bills for October 27, 2021 in the amount of \$700,577.63.

Seconded by Mr. Papenberg, motion carried, all members voting aye.

Mrs. McGinnis made the following motion:

-to approve the transfers, as listed, in the amount of \$93,248.96 for September 2021.

Seconded by Mr. Sencindiver, motion carried, all members voting aye.

Mr. Sencindiver made the following motion:

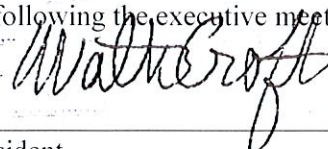
-to approve the change order from Verderame & Sons Inc. to replace existing conductors with three 500 MCM conductors, one 1/0 ground wire, and 400-amp circuit breaker in the amount of \$25,740.00.

Seconded by Mrs. Corbi, motion carried, all members voting aye.

**EXECUTIVE SESSION:**

RESOLVED, that pursuant to Section 8 of the Open Public Meeting Act, the Public shall be excluded from the portion of the meeting involving the discussion of staff family leave.

FURTHER, that any action taken shall be disclosed following the executive meeting.

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
President

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Secretary

***WHEREAS, N.J.S.A. 10:4-12 allows for a Public Body to go into closed session during a Public Meeting; and  
WHEREAS, the Riverton Board of Education has deemed it necessary to go into closed session to discuss certain matters which are exempted from the Public; and***

**WHEREAS**, the regular meeting of the Riverton Board of Education will reconvene following the end of the closed session, approximately \_\_\_\_\_ p.m. this evening.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that the Riverton Board of Education will go into closed session for the following reason(s) as outlined in N.J.S.A. 10:4-12:

\_\_\_\_\_ Any matter which, by express provision of Federal Law, State Statute or Rule of Court shall be rendered confidential or excluded from discussion in public (Provision relied upon: \_\_\_\_\_);

\_\_\_\_\_ Any matter in which the release of information would impair a right to receive funds from the federal government;

\_\_\_\_\_ Any matter the disclosure of which constitutes an unwarranted invasion of individual privacy;

\_\_\_\_\_ Any collective bargaining agreement, or the terms and conditions of which are proposed for inclusion in any collective bargaining agreement, including the negotiation of terms and conditions with employees or representatives of employees of the public body (Specify contract: \_\_\_\_\_)

\_\_\_\_\_ Any matter involving the purpose, lease or acquisition of real property with public funds, the setting of bank rates or investment of public funds where it could adversely affect the public interest if discussion of such matters were disclosed;

\_\_\_\_\_ Any tactics and techniques utilized in protecting the safety and property of the public provided that their disclosure could impair such protection;

\_\_\_\_\_ Any investigations of violations or possible violations of the law;

\_\_\_\_\_ Any pending or anticipated litigation or contract negotiation in which the public body is or may become a party. Any matters falling within the attorney-client privilege, to the extent that confidentiality is required in order for the attorney to exercise his ethical duties as a lawyer (If pending or anticipated litigation, the matter is entitled: \_\_\_\_\_) (If contract negotiation, the nature of the contract and interested party is \_\_\_\_\_)

X \_\_\_\_\_ Any matter involving the employment, appointment, termination of employment, terms and conditions of employment, evaluation of the performance, promotion or disciplining of any specific prospective public officer or employee or current public officer or employee employed or appointed by the public body, unless all individual employees or appointees whose rights could be adversely affected request in writing that such matter or matters be discussed at a public meeting (Subject to the balancing of the public's interest and the employee's privacy rights under South Jersey Publishing, 124 N.J. 478, the employee (s) and nature of discussion \_\_\_\_\_);

\_\_\_\_\_ Any deliberation of a public body occurring after a public hearing that may result in the imposition of a specific civil penalty upon the responding party or the suspension or loss of a license or permit belonging to the responding party as a result of an act of omission for which the responding party bears responsibility.

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that the Riverton Board of Education hereby declares that its discussion of the aforementioned subject(s) may be made public at a time when the Riverton Board of Education Attorney advises the Riverton Board of Education that the disclosure of the discussion will not detrimentally affect any right, interest or duty of the School District or any other entity with respect to said discussion.

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that the Riverton Board of Education, for the aforementioned reasons, hereby declares that the public is excluded from the portion of the meeting during which the above discussion shall take place and hereby directs the Board Secretary to take the appropriate action to effectuate the terms of this resolution.

Upon a motion made by Mr. Sencindiver, seconded by Mrs. McGinnis, the Board adjourned to Executive Session at 7:27 p.m. for the purpose of discussing staff family leave.



**PUBLIC SESSION:**

Upon a motion made by Mr. Sencindiver, seconded by Mrs. Corbi, the Board reconvened to open Public Session at 7:28 p.m. Motion carried, all members voting aye.

**ACTION TAKEN AS A RESULT OF DISCUSSION DURING EXECUTIVE SESSION:**

Based on the recommendation of the Superintendent, Mrs. Corbi made the following motion:

-to approve New Jersey Family Leave and Medical Leave for Mrs. Amy Pfeiffer beginning January 3, 2022 returning May 16, 2022, using 40 sick days.

Seconded by Mr. Papenberg, motion carried, all members voting aye.

Mr. Sencindiver made the following motion:

-to approve New Jersey Family Leave and Medical Leave for Mrs. Rebecca Karr- Parente beginning January 3, 2022 returning May 16, 2022, using 30 sick days.

Seconded by Mrs. Corbi, motion carried, all members voting aye.

**DISCUSSION ITEMS:** None


**INFORMATION ITEMS:** None

**RECOGNITION OF CITIZENS FOR COMMENT ON ITEMS NOT ON THE AGENDA:** None

**ADJOURNMENT:**

Hearing no further business, Mr. Croft called for a motion to adjourn at 7:31 p.m.

Upon a motion made by Mrs. Corbi, seconded by Mrs. McGinnis, the Board moved for the meeting to be adjourned. Motion carried, all members present voting aye.

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Nikolas Vrettos, Board Secretary  
Riverton Board of Education

**APPROVED UPON MOTION OF THE BOARD**

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
President

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Secretary